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PRMT SECTION

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1700 South Second Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63177  
Phone: (314) 622-1400

January 28, 1988

Mr. Lyndell L. Harrington  
Permits Section, RCRA Branch  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region VII  
726 Minnesota Avenue  
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

Dear Mr. Harrington:

We are in receipt of your letter dated December 11, 1987 regarding the request for information on solid waste management units (SWMUs) at the Queeny Plant. Please note that this request was received in our offices on December 15, 1987 and this response is being submitted within the 45 day time limit specified.

It is important to note that our original response on SWMUs submitted to your office on March 29, 1985 was prepared based on guidance provided by the Region VII office. At that time, we were instructed not to include any units that were part of the Queeny Plant's RCRA applications. In addition, we were also advised at that time by Region VII representatives that the agency only wanted information on SWMUs that were in operation after the enactment of RCRA. Given this direction, our earlier response only included the two SWMUs identified.

To aid in the overall clarification of our response, this letter has been segregated into specific sections that deal with the Queeny SWMUs. We have also provided specific comments to three issues raised in your request for information, the "waste spill pond" (CAC spill pond), waste management history at the Queeny Plant and the extension of the definition of SWMUs to include production process areas.

CAC Spill Pond

At the time of our March 1985 SWMU submittal, the CAC spill pond was not included on the Queeny inventory. It was our opinion at the time that this unit was not a SWMU. Our reasoning was based on the fact that this unit was associated with a specific manufacturing process, and not connected to a hazardous waste operation. More specifically, the spill pond was installed downstream of a manufacturing department to facilitate emergency spill secondary containment of a water reactive product. The spill pond's design includes a reservoir of water whose major purpose was to react with major spills of product which could potentially occur within the department under emergency conditions. The system's installation had no direct connection with the hazardous waste operations within the department or the plant. Consequently, we did not include it as a SWMU.



R00107861  
RCRA RECORDS CENTER  
ACC#03

#### Queeney Plant Waste Management History

The observation noted in your December 11, 1987 letter regarding the Queeney Plant's manufacturing history dating back to 1901 is indeed correct. However, it is important to note that this "long history" did not include any of the traditional waste disposal units that are part of the SWMU definition. To the best of our knowledge, the Queeney Plant was never the site of a hazardous waste or solid waste landfill, surface impoundment, waste pile, land treatment unit injection well or underground storage tank.

All SWMUs that have been part of the Queeney Plant's history are summarized in Table 1. Please note that the identified SWMUs on this list do not include any discernible land based facilities such as landfills, surface impoundments, waste piles land treatment unit or injection well.

#### Extension of SWMU Definition to Production Processes

The extension of the SWMU definition to include "areas associated with production processes which have become contaminated as a result of routine and systematic releases of hazardous waste or hazardous constituents" is not appropriate. It is our understanding that these areas are specifically excluded from the definition of a SWMU. The term "solid waste management unit" is used, but not defined, in section 3004(u) of RCRA. In fact, the term is not defined anywhere in RCRA. EPA also has never defined it in any Regulation as of this date. The only time EPA has attempted to explain what the term means in a regulatory process is at 50 F.R. 28702, 28712 (July 15, 1985) in the preamble to the Codification Rule. At that time EPA stated as follows:

The term "solid waste management unit" includes any unit at the facility " from which hazardous constituents might migrate, irrespective of whether the units were intended for the management of solid and/or hazardous wastes." H. R. Rep. No. 198, 98th Cong., 1st Sess., Part 1, 60 (1983). It is generally not intended to encompass areas where wastes were not placed in such units. The legislative history notes that "[t]he term 'unit' is intended to be defined as in the preamble [sic] to EPA regulations published on July 26, 1982 and as further defined by EPA in the future." Id. (Emphasis added.)

EPA then listed the units it thought should be included within the meaning of the term "unit" and that list includes containers, tanks, surface impoundments, waste piles, land treatment units, landfills, incinerators, and underground injection wells.

Later on page 28712, in the third column, EPA states that the legislative history indicates that Congress intended to limit EPA jurisdiction to discernible units. EPA then discusses how spills should be handled and it stated that section 3004(u) did not apply to spills that were not linked to SWMUs.

#### Queeney Plant SWMUs and Regulated Units

The Queeney Plant SWMUs and regulated units are summarized on Table 1; they have been segregated into three categories which should aid the Region VII office in clarifying the basis for SWMU selection. A more detailed explanation of each SWMU is contained in Attachment 1. The SWMU descriptions that are provided follow the instruction of Mr. Waggoner's letter as individual responses to the questions have been labeled "1.a.", "1.b.", etc.

A map showing the location of the SWMUs at Queeny has been developed and is identified as Attachment 2.

The information requested in Questions 2.a. through 2.g. is not relevant to the inquiry concerning SWMUs. We fail to understand the overall intent of the Region VII office in requesting such information given the fact that such a request is outside the regulatory boundary of SWMUs considerations. We have therefore elected not to respond to this portion of this request for information.

However, Monsanto wishes to be cooperative in this matter and shares EPA's interest in their efforts to protect the public health and the environment. To this end, we offer to review available groundwater information from the Queeny Plant with the agency. It is important to note that the groundwater data are not related to any investigation related to SWMUs. Rather, the information reflects a general assessment of groundwater conditions in the plant.

We are confident that you will agree that issues relating to groundwater quality assessments are extremely difficult to address. Given this, we suggest that a meeting be arranged on a mutually agreeable date where the data may be presented and discussed to assure a clear understanding of both the groundwater situation and the SWMUs at the Queeny Plant.

Please direct all future correspondence regarding this matter to Mr. Robert F. Boland, Environmental Protection Superintendent, at the same address.

Yours very truly,



Kenneth H. Kennedy  
Plant Manager

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

  
Signature

Kenneth H. Kennedy, Plant Manager  
Name and Title

cc: Mr. John Doyle, MDNR

TABLE 1  
RCRA REGULATED UNITS & SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNITS  
MONSANTO CHEMICAL COMPANY  
J. F. QUEENY PLANT  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

RCRA REGULATED UNITS INCLUDED ON QUEENY'S RCRA APPLICATIONS

PHENOL RESIDUE STORAGE TANK  
AZOMETHINE RESIDUE STORAGE TANK  
AZOMETHINE RESIDUE HOLD TANK  
CAC LIQUID WASTE STORAGE TANK  
CAC INCINERATOR  
CLARIFIER SLUDGE STORAGE TANKS (4)  
CONTAINER STORAGE LOTS (2)  
CONTAINER STORAGE BUILDING

SWMUs EXEMPTED DUE TO THE WASTEWATER EXCLUSION

NEUTRALIZATION BASIN  
CLARIFIER  
LABORATORY COALESCER

SWMUs NOT PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED

CAC SPILL POND  
PUMP PIT



ATTACHMENT 1  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNITS - DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Neutralization Basin

1.a. Location: See enclosed map.

1.b. Type of unit: Elementary neutralization basin (concrete with acid brick lining)

Dimensions: Approximately 45 ft. x 37 ft. x 24 ft.

1.c. Dates of operation: 1972 - still currently operating

1.d. Type of waste managed: Liquid process wastewater

Quantity of waste managed: For example, 1500 gpm (daily average)

1.e. Hazardous waste or hazardous constituent releases: To the best of our knowledge, none

1.f. Release Monitoring Data: None

1.g. Corrective Action Measures: None

Clarifier

1.a. Location: See enclosed map

1.b. Type of unit: Primary clarification basin (concrete with acid brick lining)

Dimensions: Approximately 90 ft. x 30 ft. x 20 ft.

1.c. Dates of operation : 1982 - still currently operating

1.d. Type of waste managed: Liquid process wastewater

Quantity of waste managed: For example, 1500 gpm (daily average)

1.e. Hazardous waste or hazardous constituent releases: To the best of our knowledge, none.

1.f. Release Monitoring Data: None

1.g. Corrective Action Measures: None

Pump Pit

1.a. Location: See enclosed map

1.b. Type of unit: Wastewater diversion structure (concrete with acid brick lining)

Dimensions: 23 ft. in diameter, 29 ft. deep

1.c. Dates of operation: 1982 - still currently operating

1.d. Type of waste managed: Liquid process wastewater

Quantity of waste managed: For example, 1500 gpm (daily average)

1.e. Hazardous waste or hazardous constituent releases: To the best of our knowledge, none.

1.f. Release Monitoring Data: None

1.g. Corrective Action Measures: None

CAC Spill Pond

1.a. Location: See enclosed map

1.b. Type of unit: Spill collection basin (concrete with acid protective coating)

Dimensions: 90 ft. x 30 ft. x 10 ft.

1.c. Dates of operation: 1972 - still currently operating

1.d. Type of waste managed: Liquid process wastewater

Quantity of waste managed: For example, 300 gpm (daily average)

1.e. Hazardous waste or hazardous constituent releases: To the best of our knowledge, none.

1.f. Release Monitoring Data: None

1.g. Corrective Action Measures: None

Laboratory Coalescer

1.a. Location: See enclosed map.

1.b. Type of unit: Primary wastewater separation unit

Dimensions: 20 ft. by 20 ft. by 10 ft.

1.c. Dates of operation: 1981 - still in operation

1.d. Types of waste generated: Liquid laboratory wastewater

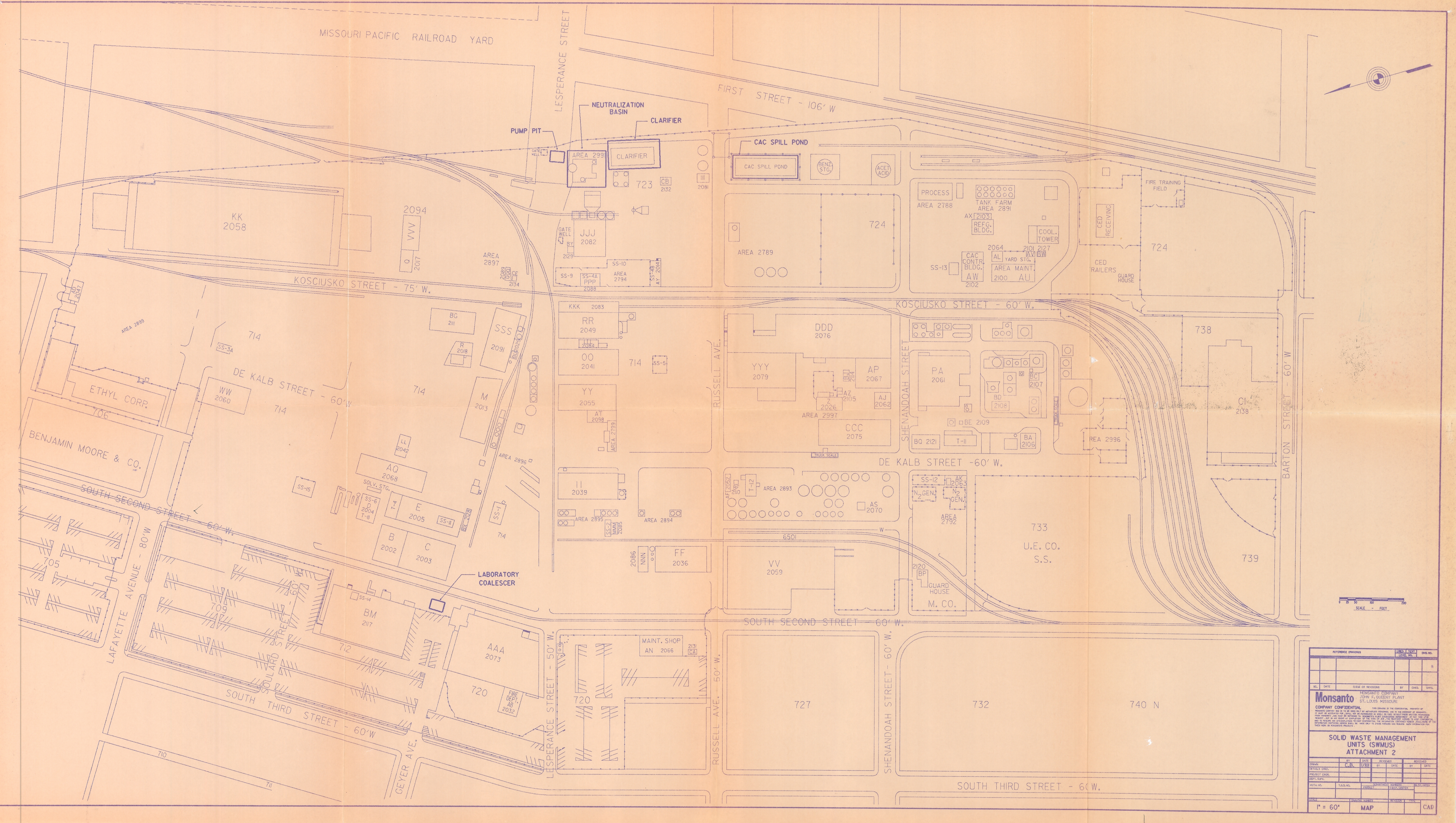
Quantity of waste managed: For example, 10 gpm (daily average)

1.e. Hazardous waste or hazardous constituent releases: To the best of our knowledge, none

1.f. Release monitoring data: None

1.g. Corrective Action Measures: None





REFERENCE CHANGES		LINES, TIE-INS, LEVEL NO.		DATE	
NO.	DATE	ISSUE OR REVISIONS	BY	CHKD.	APPR.

**Monsanto**  
MONSANTO COMPANY  
JOHN F. QUEENY PLANT  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

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**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UNITS (SWMUS) ATTACHMENT 2**

DATE	BY	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	DATE
1/2/88	C.B.	1/2/88						

PROJECT NO. 200000  
SHEET NO. 200000  
SCALE: 1" = 60'

MAP

CAD